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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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CSD.3.4964C.3

TO: The Secretary of State
Attention: Mr. Edward J. Carroll
FROM: Deputy Director, Plans
SUBJECT: SPARKER, Wolfgang

1. Reference is made to your SI memorandum AMB/204, dated 24 April 1953, subject as above, whose name you desired checked against the files of this office.

2. The files of this office reflect the following information pertaining to the subject of your request, one SPARKER, Emu, Doctor SPARKER, Emu, and one SPARKER, Emu, information concerning the latter three is interjected because these names appear to be only variations of the spelling of subject's name.

3. According to information compiled by EMU/ during World War II, from sources whose reliability is unknown, one SPARKER, Emu, was suspected of being an agent of the Security Service of the State and Party (SD) employed at the German Embassy in Rome, Italy in August 1943.

4. In an interrogation report dated 27 September 1944, one Armando PRINCE, subject of the report, advised that he came to know Dr. SPARKER, the former counselor of the German Embassy in Rome, in the pension Alto Alige. According to PRINCE, Dr. SPARKER referred him to one Colonel KUPFER at the German Embassy following a request for aid in securing a position with the Foot organization or as a liaison officer between operation units and the German Command. PRINCE stated in the report that he had told Dr. SPARKER that he was a member of the Italian SS (sic), but had not mentioned that he was a deserter being sought by the Italian and German Police.

5. In a report dated 1 July 1951, a usually reliable source advised that subject above was unclassified interest in a group of ex-German and Austrian officers who were organizing a politico-military information service in various offices in Italy.

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6. A usually reliable source stated, in a report dated 22 October 1951, that according to the records of the Rome Question, Subject, the son of Heinrich and Helene KLEGG, was a special attaché of the German Embassy in Rome from 1938 to 1943. The records indicated that Subject emigrated to Italy in 1946 and became an interpreter and made trips abroad for the I.R.O. Company (Industria Chimica e Farmaceutica) in 1949.

7. In a report dated January 1952, a source whose reliability is unknown, in refuting an article written by James MANN in addition No. 2, volume 26, January 1952, of the "Zeits der Woche", furnished information pertaining to Subject. Source advised that the author of the article was in error in the belief that Subject was an adviser in the Rome "Movimento Sociale Italiano" (MSI - Italian Social Movement). According to Source, Subject had withdrawn himself from the MSI two years previously and at the time of the report was solely occupied as a merchant. Source stated further that there was tension between Subject and the leadership of the MSI, particularly in relation to Augusto DE MARIANIS and retired Ambassador Filippo ARRUSSO. The MSI leaders, including MARIANO-JACCHINELLI, former Hitler Youth leader and Supreme Party Leader (Gauleiter), regarded Subject as a tool of the United States secret service and refrained from any contact with him.

8. A reliable source, in a report dated 11 March 1952, stated that Subject was identical with SS 2nd Lieutenant SPARKER, four, who was listed in the German Prisoner as an employee of the German Embassy in Rome in August 1943 and a member of the staff of the RSHA in Berlin, Germany.

9. One Dr. SPARKER, four, according to a source of unknown reliability, was living at Via Schiapparelli 15, Rome, Italy, in June 1952. Source advised that Dr. SPARKER had been previously employed by the "Auslandsabteilung" (Foreign Department) of the Nazi Party. At the time of the report Dr. SPARKER was allegedly in contact with Swiss and Croatian journalists. This information was extracted from a report dated 16 June 1952.

10. In a report dated 19 August 1952, a fairly reliable source advised that Subject at that time held the position of chief of foreign correspondence in the I.R.O. Company which produces Italian periodicals. He was, according to source, a particularly trusted subordinate and co-worker of Giovanni ALBERTINI of that company. Allegedly, Subject was that official

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of the German Embassy who, with German Ambassador RATH, arranged for the disposition of the treasure (liquid assets) of the German Command in Italy at the time of the Passau break-through. Reportedly, Subject, as administrator of the treasure which consisted of several billions of lire and other valuables, deposited it in a large Rome bank through secret transactions. Source stated that only Subject and a few Italian intermediaries were aware of the details of the disposition and that questions raised by the Italian Parliament in Rome and by the press in western Germany concerning the treasure, have remained unanswered. According to Source, Subject did not return to Rome following the fall of the Third Reich, but entrusted the care of the treasure of the Wehrmacht to a group of his Italian friends led by ARMENING. (The banking institute of which ARMENING is the chief stockholder was involved in the transaction.) Reportedly, Subject went to the Middle East where he occupied himself with the direction of the Damascus, Syria, radio station during 1948 and 1949. He later went to Cairo, Egypt, and then to Madrid, Spain, on an errand entrusted to him by the Arab League. Source stated that when Subject returned to Rome he renewed all of his old contacts and added a few new ones, especially neo-fascist elements formerly loyal to Germany and Nazism. He had many friends in the RSI and related organizations with whom he shared dreams of a resurgence of "International Fascism". According to Source, he received friends from Germany who were formerly members of the Nazi structure and later joined various groups of neo-fascist tendency. Subject also carried on relations with exponents of the Italian Upper Adige Irredentists. Source stated that members of the representation of the Federal German Republic held the opinion that Subject was aware of the location of the treasure and that he was, under cover of the ARMENING firm, I.S.O., using a good part of it to finance the Fascist and Nazi movements in Italy.

11. In a report dated 16 September 1952, a usually reliable source advised that in May 1949 Subject aided the Italian authorities for permission to sojourn in Italy for three months. At that time he stated that he had left Germany to escape Russian persecution and that he had been in Italy since September 1948 without an entry visa. In addition, according to his own statement, he was then attempting to emigrate to Argentina and was residing at 4 Via Lince, Rome. As a result, he obtained an initial sojourn permit which was then renewed on numerous occasions from July 1949 on the basis of statements by the I.S.O. firm that Subject was in the employ as a translator of technical and scientific publications. According to Source, Subject's wife, Ildegard nee WERNER,

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and their two year old son, Michele, joined him in Rome in June 1949. They asserted that they had entered Italy clandestinely across the border at the Brenner Pass. Both the wife and son also obtained sojourn permits. After the arrival of his wife and son, Subject moved to 26 Via Orsillo, then to 27 Viale dell'Industria, then to 4 Via Tesei, and then to 11 Via Sellegnelli, (all in Rome, Italy) where he was residing at the time of the report. In October 1951, Cristina SPANIER, born in Berlin, Germany, in 1936, joined her parents in Rome. Source advised that Subject rose rapidly in the L.R.O. firm, becoming a person of trust of Count Giovanni AMERIGHI, who appointed him chief of the foreign department of the firm. In this capacity, Subject accompanied AMERIGHI on various trips abroad and obtained numerous Italian re-entry visas as well as foreigner's identity certificates, which he returned in June 1951. At that time he obtained a new and regular passport from the Consulate of the German Federal Republic in Rome. In February 1952 Michael BRENN, the journalist, in his articles regarding Martin ROHMANN's alleged presence in Rome, stated that Subject had acted as intermediary in the episode. Subject subsequently had his denial of this assertion published in the German newspaper 'Volksrecht'.

12. A fairly reliable source, in a report dated 24 October 1952, confirmed the information contained in paragraph 9 above, with the exception of the treasure aspect. Source advised that in October 1951 Subject was not especially well-off financially and on the basis of the appearance of Subject's home furnishings, his circumstances were not even equivalent to upper middle class. According to Source, the rumors that Subject had some money were prevalent but they had never been confirmed. Source stated that Subject was approached by Leopold GEMMEL, of the Brudersbrat, neo-fascist organization, who tried to persuade him to subsidize that organization without success. The only neo-fascist who ever received anything from him was one Jean HAYWARD, whom Subject helped with travel funds to the extent of about \$100.00. According to Source, Subject was at odds with the FBI and was not giving that organization any money.

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13. In a report dated 15 December 1952, a fairly reliable source stated that Subject, having become chief of the exportation section of I.E.O., made numerous trips to the Middle East, Damascus, and Cairo, ostensibly to purchase narcotics needed in the manufacture of the products of the firm. He had just returned from one such trip when he found himself involved in an investigation of a theft of penicillin. According to Source, the results of the investigation by the Italian police were inconclusive and unsatisfactory. Source stated that of real interest in the matter was the position of Subject who had become a confidential friend of AMMERER and trusted employees of the firm I.E.O. Reportedly, Subject had deposited in the National Bank of Agriculture, controlled by AMMERER, the sum of two and one half billion lire, which was taken from the vaults of the German Command between 1944 and 1945. Presumably while in the Middle East, Subject had occasion to meet his former Nazi comrades, officers of the Wehrmacht and the SS, who were engaged as military instructors in various Arab states. According to Source, it was rumored that Subject used part of the money obtained from the German Command to organize and subsidize the various Nazi and Fascist groups existing in the Mediterranean area. Source added that Subject had aided an intimate friend, one KROEMER, too, in obtaining employment with the I.E.O. firm. Allegedly, KROEMER had participated in the removal of the German Command funds from the vaults and belonged to a group of Nazis who desire a rebirth of the Nazi-Fascist Axis.

14. In a report dated 18 February 1953, a usually reliable source stated that a regular Italian police investigation of Subject revealed no adverse information.

15. A source, the reliability of whom is unknown, furnished information concerning one SPANIER, fnu, in Department of the Army Cairo Cable NR. 853, dated 30 March 1953. Source advised that SPANIER of the MEI, was the most important Rome operator of a nameless group of ex-German officers. According to Source, the group was established under four leaders in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1945, with anti-Communism as an objective. Source indicated that the group had changed its policy to that of neutral Fascist and hoped to become a third power following World War III.

16. Source of paragraph 15 above stated in Department of the Army Cairo cable NR. 854, dated 1 April 1953, that SPANIER (mentioned in paragraph 15) resided at 4 Via Guide d'Arezzo, Rome, Italy.

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Based on: XX-1332; C J-9825; FIR-11053; MTF-885; MOLA-10711 C
MOLA-11999; MTR-3264; MTR-32612; ACEA-308; OIR-27; OIR-285; E

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